

October 2001



District of
Columbia

**Department
of Health**

HEALTH CARE

LICENSING &

CUSTOMER SERVICE

DIVISION

MUNICIPAL CHIROPRACTIC REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 48 CHIROPRACTIC

Secs.	
4800	General Provisions
4801	Term of License
4802	Educational Requirements
4803	[Reserved]
4804	National Examination
4805	District Examination
4806	Continuing Education Requirements
4807	Approved Continuing Education Programs and Activities
4808	Continuing Education Credits
4809 - 4810	[Reserved]
4811	Performance of Ancillary Procedures by Certified Chiropractors
4812	Duties of Advisory Committee and Board
4899	Definitions

4800 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 4800.1 This chapter shall apply to applicants for and holders of a license to practice chiropractic.
- 4800.2 Chapters 40 (Health Occupations: General Rules), 41 (Health Occupations: Administrative Procedures), and 46 (Medicine) of this title shall supplement this chapter.
- 4800.3 Notwithstanding anything in Chapter 40 to the contrary, the Board shall only accept applications for licensure by one of the following means:
- (a) Examination;
 - (b) Reactivation of an inactive license; or
 - (c) Reinstatement of an expired, suspended, or revoked license.
- 4800.4 An applicant for a license to practice chiropractic shall submit with a completed application three (3) letters from chiropractors licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States in good standing who have personal knowledge of the applicant's abilities and qualifications to practice chiropractic.

AUTHORITY: Unless otherwise noted, the authority for this chapter is §302(14) of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, D.C. Law 6-99, D.C. Code §2-3303.2(14) (1981 Ed.); and Mayor's Order 86-110, dated July 18, 1986.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658 (September 2, 1988); as amended by Final Rulemaking published at 37 DCR 2747, 2750 (May 4, 1990).

4801 TERM OF LICENSE

- 4801.1 Subject to §4801.2, a license issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of December 31st of each even-numbered year.
- 4801.2 If the Director changes the renewal system pursuant to §4006.3 of Chapter 40 of this title, a license issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of the last day of the month of the birthdate of the holder of the license, or other date established by the Director.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6659 (September 2, 1988).

4802 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

4802.1 Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, an applicant shall furnish proof satisfactory to the Board, in accordance with §504(b) of the Act, D.C. Code §2-3305.4(b) (1988), that the applicant has met the following requirements:

- (a) Has successfully completed two (2) years of education at the baccalaureate level at a college or university accredited at the time of the applicant's attendance by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education or the Council on Postsecondary Education; and
- (b) Has graduated from an educational program in the practice of chiropractic that:
 - (1) Consists of four (4) academic years of study;
 - (2) Includes five hundred (500) hours of practical clinical experience under the supervision of a chiropractor; and
 - (3) Is accredited at the time of the applicant's graduation by:
 - (A) The Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE); or
 - (B) The Straight Chiropractic Academic Standards Association (SCASA).

4802.2 An applicant shall submit with a completed application a certified transcript and an official certificate of graduation from educational institution(s) to the Board.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6659 (September 2, 1988); as amended by Final Rulemaking published at 37 DCR 2747, 2750 (May 4, 1990).

4803 [RESERVED]

4804 NATIONAL EXAMINATION

4804.1 To qualify for a license by examination, an applicant shall receive a passing score on an examination administered by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE) (the national examination).

4804.2 An applicant shall submit with a completed application the applicant's national examination results, certified by the NBCE.

4804.3 The passing score on the national examination shall be a score of seventy-five percent (75%) on each test that forms a part of the examination as determined by the NCBE.

4804.4 The Board shall only consider examination results after the applicant has passed all parts of the examination.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6660 (September 2, 1988); as amended by Final Rulemaking published at 37 DCR 2747, 2750 (May 4, 1990).

4805 DISTRICT EXAMINATION

4805.1 To qualify for a license under this chapter, an applicant, without exception, shall receive a passing score on a written and practical examination developed by the Committee (the District examination) in the following areas:

- (a) Technique;

- (b) X-ray interpretation and diagnosis;
- (c) Physical examination including neurological and orthopedic diagnostic testing;
- (d) Instrumentation;
- (e) Chiropractic philosophy; and
- (f) District law.

4805.2 An applicant shall pass all parts of the national examination to be eligible to take the District examination.

4805.3 The District examination may include, but is not limited to, questions on the following:

- (a) The District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, D.C. Law 6-99, D.C. Code §2-3301.1 *et seq.* (1988); and
- (b) This chapter.

4805.4 The Board shall supply each applicant for examination by the Board with copies of the laws and rules on which the applicant will be tested thirty (30) days prior to the examination.

4805.5 A passing score on the District examination shall be seventy-five percent (75%) on each test that forms a part of examination.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6660 (September 2, 1988).

4806 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

4806.1 Subject to §4806.2, this section shall apply to applicants for the renewal, reactivation, or reinstatement of a license for a term expiring March 31, 1990, and for subsequent terms.

4806.2 This section shall not apply to applicants for an initial license by examination, nor shall it apply to applicants for the first renewal of a license granted by examination.

4806.3 A continuing education credit shall be valid only if it is part of a program specified in §4807.

4806.4 An applicant for renewal of a license shall submit proof pursuant to §4806.7 of having completed twenty-four (24) hours of approved continuing education credit during the two-year (2) period preceding the date the license expires.

4806.5 To qualify for a license, a person in inactive status within the meaning of §511 of the Act, D.C. Code §2-3305.11 (1988) who submits an application to reactivate a license shall submit proof pursuant to §4806.7 of having completed twelve (12) hours of approved continuing education credit for each license year after December 31, 1990, that the applicant was in inactive status.

4806.6 To qualify for a license, an applicant for reinstatement of a license shall submit proof pursuant to §4806.7 of having completed twelve (12) hours of approved continuing education credit for each year after December 31, 1990, that the applicant was not licensed.

4806.7 An applicant under this section shall prove completion of required continuing education credits by submitting with the application the following information with respect to each program:

- (a) The name and address of the sponsor of the program;

- (b) The name of the program, its location, a description of the subject matter covered, and the names of the instructors;
- (c) The dates on which the applicant attended the program;
- (d) The hours of credit claimed; and
- (e) Verification by the sponsor of completion by signature or stamp.

4806.8 An applicant for renewal of a license who fails to submit proof of having completed continuing education requirements by the date the license expires may renew the license up to sixty (60) days after expiration by submitting proof pursuant to §4806.7 and by paying the required additional late fee.

4806.9 Upon submitting proof and paying the late fee, the applicants shall be deemed to have possessed a valid license during the period between the expiration of the license and the submission of the required documentation and payment of the late fee.

4806.10 If an applicant for renewal of a license fails to submit proof of completion of continuing education requirements or pay the late fee within sixty (60) days after the expiration of applicant's license, the license shall be considered to have lapsed on the date of expiration.

4806.11 The Board may, in its discretion, grant an extension of the sixty (60) day period to renew after expiration if the applicant's failure to submit proof of completion was for good cause. For purposes of this section, "good cause" includes the following:

- (a) Serious and protracted illness of the applicant;
- (b) The death or serious and protracted illness of a member of the applicant's immediate family.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6661 (September 2, 1988); as amended by Final Rulemaking published at 37 DCR 2747, 2750 (May 4, 1990).

4807 APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

4807.1 The Board shall accept for credit continuing education programs provided or sponsored by the following:

- (a) A college of chiropractic accredited by the CCE or SCASA;
- (b) The American Chiropractic Association;
- (c) The Federation of Straight Chiropractic Organizations; or
- (d) The International Chiropractors Association.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6662 (September 2, 1988).

4808 CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

4808.1 The Board may grant continuing education credit for whole hours only, with a minimum of fifty (50) minutes constituting one (1) credit hour.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6663 (September 2, 1988).

4809 - 4810 [RESERVED]

4811 PERFORMANCE OF ANCILLARY PROCEDURES BY CERTIFIED CHIROPRACTORS

4811.1 A chiropractor who is certified by the Board to perform ancillary procedures pursuant to §4811.2 may perform the following activities as long as they are preparatory or complementary to chiropractic adjustment of the spine:

- (a) Perform physiotherapy which may include the following:
 - (1) Massages;
 - (2) Hot packs;
 - (3) Cold packs;
 - (4) Galvanic stimulation;
 - (5) Ultra sound;
 - (6) Doppler vascularizers;
 - (7) Hydrotherapy;
 - (8) Diathermy;
 - (9) Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation;
 - (10) Traction;
 - (11) Exercise programs;
 - (12) Muscle stimulation; and
 - (13) Muscle analysis machinery;
- (b) Advise a patient about dietary and stress-reducing measures; and
- (c) Refer a patient for specialized diagnostic testing and have the findings reported to the chiropractor.

4811.2 Except as provided in §4811.3 to qualify for ancillary procedure certification, a chiropractor shall have done the following:

- (a) Have answered correctly seventy-five percent (75%) of the questions on the physiotherapy section of the examination administered by the NBCE; and
- (b) Have received a passing score of seventy-five (75) on an examination administered by the Committee which tests the applicant's knowledge and practical skills in physiotherapy.

4811.3 To qualify for ancillary procedure certification, a chiropractor who was licensed in the District prior to March 25, 1986 (the effective date of the Act), who did not take the physiotherapy section of the national examination administered by the NCBE shall within one (1) year from September 2, 1988:

- (a) Receive a passing score of seventy-five (75) on a special examination in the subject of physiotherapy administered by the NCBE; and
- (b) Receive a passing score of seventy-five (75) on an examination administered by the Committee which tests the applicant's knowledge and practical skills in physiotherapy.

4811.4 A chiropractor applying for certification under this section shall submit the chiropractor's examination results, certified by the NBCE, to the Board.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6663 (September 2, 1988); as amended by Final Rulemaking published at 37 DCR 2747, 2750 (May 4, 1990).

4812 DUTIES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND BOARD

4812.1 The Committee shall advise the Board on all matters pertaining to this chapter and provisions of the Act pertaining to the practice of chiropractic.

4812.2 The Committee shall review all applications for licensure and certification and make recommendations to the Board.

4812.3 The Committee shall review complaints and questions about chiropractors and chiropractic practice referred to the Committee by the Board and make recommendations to the Board regarding what action should be taken.

4812.4 The Committee shall make its members available to the Board to testify at a disciplinary hearing or participate in a settlement conference involving a chiropractor.

4812.5 The Committee shall submit to the Board an annual report of its activities.

4812.6 The Committee shall maintain a registry of licensed chiropractors which shall be available to the public for inspection.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6664 (September 2, 1988).

4899 DEFINITIONS

4899.1 When used in this chapter, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

Applicant - a person applying for a license to practice chiropractic under this chapter.

Board - the Board of Medicine, established by the Act, D.C. Code §2-3302.2(a) (1988).

Chiropractor - a person authorized to practice chiropractic under the Act.

Committee - the Advisory Committee on Chiropractic, established by §203(c) of the Act, D.C. Code §2-3302.3(c) (1988).

4899.2 The definitions in §4099 of Chapter 40 of this title are incorporated by reference into and apply to this chapter.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 35 DCR 6658, 6665 (September 2, 1988).